



Police Department

Press Release

November 29, 2018

For Immediate Dissemination

DEATH INVESTIGATION REVIEW

On October 8, 2018, the Kitsap County Sheriff's Department forwarded a private investigator's report alleging the wrongful death of deceased radio personality Casey Kasem to the Gig Harbor Police Department. This complaint was initiated by the spouse of Mr. Kasem, Jean Kasem. The Kitsap County Sheriff's Department had been involved in a series of events surrounding Mr. Kasem previously (KCSO report K18-010347).

Mr. Kasem passed away at St. Anthony Hospital in Gig Harbor, Washington on June 15, 2014.

The Gig Harbor Police Department opened an administrative investigation of the death on October 24, 2018. The investigation was restricted to the standard of care offered to Mr. Kasem in the days before his death, the consideration of any guardianship authority in the medical decisions made during that time, and any sign of collusion between the medical personnel and the family members exerting guardianship for Mr. Kasem.

The Gig Harbor Police Department investigation revealed that the standard of care delivered to Mr. Kasem by medical personnel was appropriate and that any medical decisions were made by family members authorized to act on his behalf. These facts are supported by a Summary Judgement issued in favor of the medical care provider(s) by United States District Court (Jean Kasem v. Catholic Health Initiatives Case No. C17-5461 BHS). Additional review of statements and depositions by various medical personnel involved in the treatment of Mr. Kasem was also conducted. There was no evidence of collusion between parties that would construe any part of this incident to be considered a homicide.

Gig Harbor Police Department case number 18 302 00097 will be forwarded to the Pierce County Prosecutor's Office for review on December 3, 2018.

For additional information, please contact Chief Kelly Busey at (253) 851-2236 or buseyk@cityofgigharbor.net.